

Remarks

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1-51 have been canceled. New claims 52-95 have been added. Claims 52-95 are currently pending in the application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner imposed a five-way election of species requirement on claims 1-51. Claims 1-51 have been canceled; thus, Applicants submit that the election of species requirement is now moot. In the place of claims 1-51, applicants have added claims 52-95. Applicants submit that there are no election of species or restriction requirement issues with these new claims. Accordingly, Applicants request that these new claims be examined as a single set.

Applicants believe that all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed. Accordingly, allowance of all pending claims is hereby respectfully solicited.

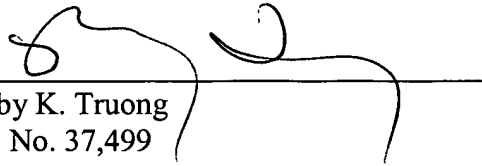
The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408) 414-1080 to discuss any issue that may advance prosecution.

To the extent necessary, Applicants' petition for a two month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee that may be due in connection with this Reply to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: June 20, 2006

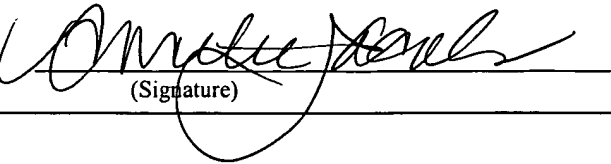
  
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on June 20, 2006  
(Date)

by   
(Signature)